



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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A view of the CVC from the Library of Congress shows work on the East Front Plaza deck progressing on pace to support inaugural activities in January 2005. Inset: Stone crews place granite paving stones near the grassy bed in front of the original Senate Wing.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 11/29/04 through 12/03/04

East Front Plaza Highlights:

- The tower crane in the southwest quadrant will be dismantled and removed this coming weekend.
- Crews continue to install the small skylights situated in the rectangular grass beds near the face of the Capitol as part of the effort to prepare the East Front Plaza for the inauguration.
- Stone masons have now placed more than 145,000 granite pavers on the CVC roof deck. The pavers will cover the western half of the CVC roof deck in time for the inauguration.
- Major concrete placements for the upper roof slab in the northeast and southeast quadrants have been completed.
- Installation of utility and communications conduit continues in the Congressional Auditorium.
- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect interior blockwork, and install utilities throughout the site.

East Front Extension (EFE) (Inside the Capitol)

- Crews have placed concrete for the central grand staircase that connects the CVC to the Capitol at the Crypt level.
- Crews continue with demolition activities to clear the way for elevators, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- The truck tunnel is open to trucks delivering materials in support of the Sequence 2 contract. The tunnel is not expected to open to general truck traffic (in support of Capitol operations) until 2006 when all interior support facilities, freight elevators and connecting corridors are completed.
- Crews will continue to place asphalt to restore Northwest Drive. Additional roadwork within Northwest Drive may occur later this week or next to restore portions of the roadbed beyond the tunnel construction zone, specifically the area west of the tunnel zone and near the First Street entrance. All the curbstones within the CVC project requirements have been reinstalled and the remaining curbstones will be replaced as part of the perimeter security work occurring concurrently within this zone.
- Work to restore the aggregate stone sidewalks along NJ Avenue NW has been completed.
- The perimeter security team continues to assemble the formwork for the circular planter near the North Entrance.



The base concrete structure for the main central staircase that links the CVC to the Capitol has been placed. Escalators will flank both sides of the staircase when this zone is completed.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Waterproofing is now complete in the tunnel below First Street and workers have begun removing the temporary bridge on First Street SE above the tunnel zone. The bridge removal and subsequent backfilling may be completed by the end of the week. Asphalt paving and restoration of the First Street roadbed may be completed by the end of next week. Traffic lanes have shifted to the east side of First Street to facilitate removal of the bridge structure.
- Crews will continue to place concrete along the eastern end of the tunnel with the northwest grounds of the LOC. All concrete placements may be completed by early December.

Next Week – 12/06/04 – 12/10/04

East Front Plaza Work

- Workers will continue placing the granite paving stones on the CVC roof deck and other plaza deck work in preparation of the inauguration in January 2005.
- Crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, place concrete, erect blockwork, and backfill the zones near the CVC entrances.

East Front Extension

- Steel crews will continue to erect steel and place concrete within the East Front concrete structure. Demolition of structural elements and clearing activities will continue in various zones within the East Front.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Restoration of Northwest Drive will continue, including the placement of asphalt and the restoration of sidewalks.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Formwork assembly, concrete placements and waterproofing will continue in various zones along the LOC tunnel route especially within the northwest grounds of the LOC. Pedestrian access will continue along the east side of the work zone. Existing traffic patterns may change slightly depending upon the progress of the removal of the temporary bridge along First Street SE and the restoration of the First Street roadbed.